

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
William B. Vail, III

Serial No.: 10/678,738

Confirmation No.: 6117

Filed: October 2, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATS FOR
CEMENTING DRILL STRINGS IN
PLACE FOR ONE PASS
DRILLING AND COMPLETION
OF OIL AND GAS WELLS

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Frank Tsay

Customer No. 36735

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 25 July 2005

William B. Patterson

Typed Name

34,102

Reg. No. if applicable

Allen B. Pitt

**Signature**

(713)623-4844

Telephone Number

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 25, 2005**

In response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one-month set to expire on August 25, 2005, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0524/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.